

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listings of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A method for managing multiple instances of an application executing in a plurality of computers connected by a network, the method comprising:
creating a new object for a new instance of the application, using an existing object of an existing instance, said existing instance being one of the multiple instances;
setting up connectivity between the new instance and the network; and
starting execution of the new instance;
wherein the new instance uses the new object, and the connectivity to access a resource shared by the multiple instances.

Claim 2 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating comprises:
making a copy of said existing object; and
renaming the copy using name of the new instance.

Claim 3 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating comprises:
automatically choosing a name for the new instance.

Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said setting up connectivity comprises:
adding an entry for the new instance to a file in a computer to describe the new instance.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 4, wherein said computer is hereinafter "first computer" and wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in a second computer, and said act of setting up connectivity further comprising:

said first computer communicating with said second computer.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 4, wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in said computer.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said creating, setting up connectivity, and starting execution are automatically performed in a first computer, the method further comprising:

displaying a list of computers in said plurality; and
receiving from a user a selection of a second computer in said list.

Claim 8 (original): The method of Claim 7 wherein:
each computer in said list does not have an instance of said application.

Claim 9 (original): The method of Claim 7 wherein:
at least one computer in said list already has at least one instance of said application.

Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 7 further comprising:
installing software for said application on said second computer if said second computer does not have said software.

Claim 11 (original): The method of Claim 7 further comprising:
setting up resources for said new instance in said second computer.

Claim 12 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said act of setting up connectivity comprises:

adding an entry for the new instance to a file shared across all computers.

Claim 13 (original): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
adding an entry for the new instance to a private file in each computer.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said act of creating new object comprises:

creating an entry for the new instance in a map file shared across all computers.

Claims 15-22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (original): A computer system comprising a plurality of computers and a shared resource, the computer system comprising:

means for creating a new object for a new instance using an existing object of an existing instance;

means for setting up connectivity between the new instance and a network connected to the plurality of computers; and

means for starting execution of the new instance, such that the new instance uses the new object and the connectivity to access the shared resource.

Claim 24(original): The computer system of Claim 23 wherein said means for creating comprises:

means for copying said existing object; and

means for renaming the copy using a name of the new instance.

Claim 25 (original): The computer system of Claim 23 further comprising:

means for shutting down an instance (hereinafter "killed instance");

means for deleting connectivity between the killed instance and the network; and

means for deleting an object of the killed instance.

Claim 26 (new): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

making the new instance more powerful or less powerful than the existing instance.

Claim 27 (new): The method of Claim 1 wherein:

said resource comprises static configuration, the static configuration including information that remains in existence even after power is turned off to a computer having one of the instances.

Claim 28 (new): The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
setting up at least one additional resource needed to bootstrap the new instance.

Claim 29 (new): The method of Claim 14 wherein:
the shared map identifies a mapping between said instances and computers in a cluster.